

# **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET**

## **Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services**

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Third Worcester Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.*

### **Residents of Third Worcester Representative District**

#### **Characteristics of Admissions**

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (882) of these admissions reside in the Third Worcester Representative District. 2.8% (25) of admissions from the Third Worcester Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Third Worcester Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 73% were male and 27% were female.
- 65% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 61% were white non-Latino, 6% were black non-Latino, 28% were Latino, and 5% were other racial categories.
- 66% were never married, 10% were married, and 24% reported not to be married now.
- 36% had less than high school education, 47% completed high school, and 17% had more than high school education.
- 20% were employed.
- 20% were homeless.
- 25% had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Primary Substance of Use**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Third Worcester Representative District.

<b>Table 1</b>					
<b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	29%	59%	6%	2%	2%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

#### **Substances Used in Past Year**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003</b>							
<b>Third Worcester Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	970	828	366	347	399	345	220
<b>FY '96</b>	823	674	302	325	284	329	214
<b>FY '97</b>	912	704	353	346	236	369	257
<b>FY '98</b>	906	684	334	314	183	398	250
<b>FY '99</b>	1003	701	407	366	204	529	385
<b>FY '00</b>	1,033	644	403	319	235	610	443
<b>FY '01</b>	1,151	645	331	341	222	754	562
<b>FY '02</b>	1,055	560	279	308	196	682	533
<b>FY '03</b>	882	455	229	272	132	561	462

### Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional changes in all admissions in the Third Worcester Representative District and the proportional change in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

